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CURRENT COMMENT

By FREDERIC HEATH.

The more often the old parties reform, the more stinkingly become in the nostrils of honest men.

Woodrow Wilson has no hounds at his heels, but a labor record that he has been trying to cover up is now likely to dog his footsteps.

Verily, Verily! Capitalist greed and "get before I'm eaten" never sleeps. Word comes from Alaska that the American meat trust is preparing to market reindeer meat in that frozen territory and to get a monopoly of the reindeer meat business.

Liggen, the head of the great organized labor movement of Germany, who has just completed a speaking tour of this country, gives it as his conviction that the United States will become a Socialist nation before Germany, because Germany has the shackles of centuries to undo. The situation is freer in this country, he says.

In Schenectady the Socialist administration sells water, while it has a right to do under the charter, but it freezes it first and is thereby giving the people 25-cent ice in place of the ice trust price of 50 cents. Capitalism will doubtless bring its courts into play to stop this interference with "legitimate" business. Anything for the people's good is illegitimate in capitalistic eyes.

The Iowa Unionist editorially finds the old parties in a good deal of a mixup and also says that labor will resent Gompers' turn-down by the platform makers at Chicago. That's all right, but consider the question is, how will the present it, and how would the Unionist advise them to react it—by voting some other old party ticket? Is labor still ambitious to be sold good by foxy capitalism?

Mr. Dooley, who is said to be a good deal of a Socialist, brings to bear his pointed wit on the leading capitalist party politicians from the report that they "would like to make the 'timpry organization of the wurrild permanent." There's a bon mot that deserves to live, and that will live. Unfortunately for capitalism the evolution of society knows no permanent organization, and evolution keeps right on.

Some appropriate remarks are made by the Intermountain Worker of Salt Lake City, on Mr. Gompers' "crawling on his belly" before the capitalist conventions at Chicago and Baltimore. The great convention of labor, the convention of the great and growing third party, was held at Indianapolis. Gompers did not crawl on his belly before that convention, and—it was the only convention to adopt a working class platform? See the humor of the situation?

Only words of praise can be given to the recent issue of the Appeal to Reason in which the anti-Socialist lectures of Father Vaughn were given in substance and then carefully unanswered. It was a Socialist making him better, not the baiting of the old party officials, as frequently reported to. No Catholic could easily rend the arguments pro and con without seeing that Socialism has to do with the realm of economics and not with the realm of religion and that there must be some hidden motive somewhere in persistently trying to mix them up.

Jean Louquet, one of the leaders in the Socialist movement in France, writes Comrade Berger of the recent municipal victories as follows: "We have just had our general elections, with many splendid victories. We have captured Toulouse, Boubalix, Brest, Limoges, Montlucon, St. Denis, St. Ouen, Puteaux, kept Nimes, and lost only St. Quentin—but in Marseilles we were only 18 against 17 and a strange sort of Socialists, they were in this 'meridional' town. In Bordeaux, where we had 2 seats, we are 13 out of 26; in Lyon, where we have won 3 seats, we are 13 instead of 10 out of 50 (the 'quarter' division are very unequal, otherwise we ought to have 22 seats)."

The recent capitalist party conventions have left many bad smells in their wake. The disgust of the voters generally over the performances is matched by the bickering bitterness and rankling poisons evidenced by the various and vari-shaded capitalist party statesmen who were mixed up in the rows. Champ Clark will never speak to Bryan again, others are piercing the bogus Democratic armour of the very bogus anti-capitalist Wilson, La Follette is challenging Roosevelt to print the list of his campaign donors, knowing well enough that Teddy will not dare to, and crooked capitalist newspapers with progressivism as a mask are fixing up all kinds of political deals. The people are looking on. In fact that's just what makes a good deal of the trouble—the people are looking on!

The state of Wisconsin owns vast forest reserves, particularly in the northern part of the state, where felling and hunting abound and where, as is the case particularly in one county, there is almost more inland lake and river area than land area. A fine policy has been inaugurated to make the reserves of some immediate use to the people, and as it is provided that anyone, whether a resident of the state or not can for a nominal yearly rental lease up to five acres of land for summer camp purpose, be actually in possession of it, and hold the lease for twenty years with the privilege of renewal at the end of that time. The forestry department will even help one to pick out an advantageous and picturesque location. This is all in our direction, and shows the trend of the times and the growing invasion of the sacred prerogatives of private initiative and private skinning rights.

Let us be frank about it. If violence or guerrilla fight would bring about the millennium on earth, it is a mighty upheaval would produce the co-operative commonwealth with its happiness for all and iniquities for none, we should probably all feel that the price for the great blessing would have to be paid in order that society might escape out of its present capitalistic nightmare. But experience has shown the futility of such impatient tactics. It is government we are concerned with the transforming of the kind of government the people have for the kind their true interests demand, and then the chance to press on with the transformation which it is Socialism's mission to bring about. The conquest of government is clearly our easiest lines of carrying our purpose. The workers are the majority. The people will, when they get such a thing as a collective purpose, rise up like the day. No such appeal must carry before them in the line of

direct action, which is foolishly trying to fight the enemy on just the side where he is strongest and most invincible. "Jackass tactics," as National Committeeman Goebel fittingly described it, can only bring ridiculous failure and catastrophe. No, political action is the level-headed way, the steady-headed way, to our goal. Impatience has brought many costly setbacks and always will bring such. Quarreling with policemen is silly. We know what the jackass tactics in Chicago in 1886 did for the American labor movement. So, frankly, we say that the political action of the international Socialist wheel is the way to go. We know that the same persons and methods are now used to against Hanford of the charges brought against him by Socialist Representative Berger.

John R. McLean's organ, the Washington Post, was one of the few newspapers that dared openly champion Ballinger. This newspaper is now also one of the very few that has come out for Hanford and against Berger in the present impeachment case.

Recently the house heard a weak defense of Judge Hanford from the Rep. of Representatives Humphrey of Seattle. The congressman sneaked in his remarks during the debate on the sundry civil appropriation bill. Representative Sherley of Kentucky, who was in charge of the bill, called him down for doing this, but permitted him to insert in the record the following resolution adopted by the board of trustees of the Seattle chamber of commerce:

"In view of the unfounded charges made in Congress against the character of our neighbor, Judge Cornelius H. Hanford, it is our duty, in this interest of truth and justice, to speak out in his defense."

"He has lived in this community for 55 years. He has been known to us for many years—some of us for more than 30 years.

"We know that he is honest, moral,

sober and a fearless man; that he is patriotic and public spirited, and that since his early manhood, now more than 40 years, he has taken an active and prominent part in every worthy movement for the good of the community. Always a hard worker, he has never been sparing of himself when the public interest called for his help.

"If he had given to his private affairs the time, energy and faithful attention he deserved, given to the public he would not be in the position of a poor man in his old age. The state has never had a better, more upright, or more patriotic citizen."

A resolution similarly laudatory and extravagant in its praise was adopted by the Seattle chamber of commerce when Ballinger was first charged with collusion in land frauds. Ballinger since then had to resign but Hanford, against whom there is evidence of graft, bias, immorality and incompetence will probably have to be kicked out of office.

By a strange coincidence Chairman Green of the Senate committee now investigating Hanford's conduct was also one of the committee which probed Ballinger's connection with the Cunningham claims and also was the chairman of the Controller Bay committee, in which Ballinger also figured.

SEATTLE, Wash.—The habits of United States District Judge Cornelius H. Hanford were the subject of inquiry this week by the judiciary sub-committee of the house of representatives, which is investigating the judge.

"He has lived in this community for 55 years. He has been known to us for many years—some of us for more than 30 years.

"We know that he is honest, moral,

A. J. Nordskog, until a few weeks ago an employee of a detective agency, was on the stand most of the afternoon.

"Judge Hanford in the evening invariably would go to the Rainier club from the federal building," said Nordskog. "He would leave the club at about 6 o'clock, when he would walk down Marion street to Second avenue and enter a bar, where he would take one drink.

"On many occasions he would walk across the street to the Butler hotel and have a third. Sometimes he would go the round of those three bars during the dinner hour. I remember that once or twice, after having gone the round during the evening hours, he went to at least three bars after 11 o'clock before going home for the night."

The witness told of following Judge Hanford late the night of Oct. 9, as he walked home in the rain from the Rainier club.

He said the judge stopped several times during the long walk to lean against a bulldog and a lamp post.

One Saturday night Judge Hanford left the Rainier club at 11 o'clock. Nordskog said, and did not make his round of the down town joints.

"He rode on a car up the hill to Brooklyn, where he got off and walked north," said the witness.

"Then he walked rapidly as I have seen men do when trying to keep their balance. He sidestepped frequently. I am certain he was intoxicated. He entered an apartment building at 11:30 and stayed until nearly 2 o'clock

in the morning, when he came out and went home."

City Councilman Oliver T. Erickson, former president of the Seattle Manufacturers' association, testified that he frequently had seen Judge Hanford under the influence of liquor. Judge Hanford and his big array of lawyers were amazed when the committee refused to permit lawyers normally representing the Bar association, but really Judge Hanford, to make any statement for record.

Probe Road Deals.

The committee indicated it was to probe Hanford's commercial dealings with the Northern Pacific Railroad company in connection with his bid irrigation project known as the Hanford Irrigation company, at Hanford, Wash. The company has brought along from Washington trunk full of correspondence of Richard A. Ballinger when he was secretary of the Irrigation company, at Hanford, Wash.

It is alleged, Hanford in turn turned the railroad company over to the Irrigation company, whose stockholders were attorneys practicing in his court and receivers and trustees in bankruptcy and their attorneys, who were allowed exceptionally large fees.

But Berger claims that the letter carriers would jeopardize their jobs if the postmasters prefer to have the men appear in the streets in full uniform. In fact the letter carriers are afraid to even suggest holding a referendum on the subject of wearing apparel.

The first matter to be investigated is the disqualification of Leonard Olson of Tacoma by Judge Hanford, Olson claiming his papers were taken away because he is a member of the Socialist Labor party.

Some of Points Sought.

The committee is to deline in detail into the acquisition of the properties of the Western Steel company by the Metropolitan Trust company of New York city, which happened in the last few months and which is now the subject of a suit involving \$1,000,000 damage.

In this case the records disclosed that the Metropolitan Trust company secured properties valued at over \$1,000,000 on a loan of only \$600,000, on which all of the interest had been paid, paying in cash to the court only \$72,000, of which Judge Hanford allowed \$62,000 in fees to receivers, trustees, and their attorneys, whose work consisted of paying out only \$14,000 in labor claims.

* * *

SEATTLE, Wash.—Testimony that United States Judge Cornelius H. Hanford was under the influence of liquor while on the bench was given to the Judiciary sub-committee of the house of representatives by Edwin J. Brown, lawyer, dentist and Socialist leader in Seattle.

Dr. Brown told the committee he appeared before Judge Hanford in 1904 as counsel in a habeas corpus hearing, and that the Judge was plainly under the influence of liquor.

A year later Dr. Brown removed to the same neighborhood as Judge Hanford and frequently came home on the car with him. He said that about once a month he had seen Judge Hanford apparently intoxicated.

"I think he is a fair man in the bench, any judge when he is sober," said Dr. Brown.

J. O. Taft, an architect, who has seen Hanford by sight for seven years, said he had frequently seen him intoxicated on the street cars.

Socialism does not consist in violently seizing upon the property of the rich and sharing it out amongst the poor. Socialists do not propose by a single act of Parliament, or by a sudden revolution to put power in the hands of the poor, but to gradually and surely compel them to remain so. Socialism is not a wild dream of a happy land where the apples will drop from the trees and into our open mouth, the fish to come out of the rivers and fry themselves for dinner, and the locusts to turn out ready-made suits with gold buttons, without coaling the engine. Neither is it a dream of a nation of stained glass angels who never say dama, who love their neighbors better than themselves and who are more honest and more truthful. No! Socialism is none of these things. It is a scientific scheme of government, entirely new, just and practical. Robert Blatchford, in "Merrie England."

"I am ashamed of a civilization that makes five thousand needy men dependent on one."—Wendell Phillips.

"I am ashamed of a civilization that makes five thousand needy men dependent on one."—Wendell Phillips.

"It is the intention of the department that if a majority of the carriers at any particular postoffice prefer to wear shirt waists during the heated term, it is not believed such uniform would be opposed by the postmaster, as the department has no such instance brought to its attention.

"With reference to your statement that you have heard from a member of some of the men the men feel that they would jeopardize their positions by wearing shirt waists against the wishes of the local postmaster, you are advised that the department would be glad to be specifically informed in order that the matter may be given proper attention.

Berger has just received another letter from the postoffice department, signed by C. P. Grandfield, the first assistant postmaster general, in this letter Grandfield said:

"If a majority of carriers at any office prefer to wear shirt waists during the heated term, it is not believed such uniform would be opposed by the postmaster, as the department has no such instance brought to its attention.

"While the department's attitude seems fair, Berger contends that it does not solve the problem. Postmen have considerable power over the letter carriers and when they find any carriers agitating for the privilege of wearing blouses they can stop the agitation in short order. Therefore, Berger will not be satisfied until the department issues a general order which shall unconditionally permit letter carriers to wear blouses in summer if they individually choose to do so.

Tis Summer

Behold, the season of perpetual torments upon us! 'Tis summer, 'tis in the words of the poet, 'tis summer, by gude.

In these frenzied days there is no rest for the weary and nothing but ten solid hours a day for the wicked.

The sun blazes down from a cloudless sky, again quoting from our old pal, the poet, the torrid rays rebound from wetter pavements—and it is hot. In the mills and the shops the flames and the sparks shoot like devilish fire tongs from an inferno.

At night the fire escape is a heavy weight a price, the front steps on the side street in a laundry and to have enough time to "drest" and go to a park is rare good fortune.

It is summer, with all that summer means to the toilers. By day, grimy and bare-necked and irritated by great rivulets of sweat that course like spring freshets and without their cooling, freshening grace.

By night toiling and fighting. In temperature from the day's hard battle with the grinding machine, poorly equipped for sleep in the quietness that the meager wage allows.

Little tads in the field alights and the crowded, brawling, stress. Far away the green lawns and the big pastures and the lakes—only dreams to thousands.

Tempting signs in every shop window lure each passerby to part with money for things that make him feel better—cool, sweet clothes, freshening, cooling building diets, wholesome things that keep mind and body in shape to fight life's battle. But while the desire are there to enter and buy and relieve—money lacks. The great master of the bread denies the bread to he who made it—and to she who made it, and to the little ones of he and she.

Summer is upon us all—so some it brings joys, to others it means only that capitalism says: "It's violent, more quickly."

It is summer. And the master of the bread cynically says, "What of it?"

* * *

It will not always be so. The world moves.

"The same mighty force that gave us a Golden Age of American Prosperity gave us also the Idle Rich and the Slaves of Industry.

"I do not mean to say that all the dividends and interest are gathered as that can exist ONLY ONCE IN

In February 1912 the Prime Minister brought in his parliament bill inquiring one of the most memorable debates in the history of this ancient assembly. It passed the House of Commons by 120 majority, and the Lords were asked to pronounce the heading at their own obsequies. They refused to yield until the Prime Minister informed them that he had the pledge of the king to create enough new peers to insure the passage of the bill. That meant four hundred new peers! Enough to lower the social value of a peerage by more than one half! The Lords submitted, the bill passed, and the curtain rang down on the final scene of aristocratic England. Henceforth the Lords, the Crown, will be mere robes of ermine and velvet, and mongers in social distinction.

After the Parliament Bill had become a law, Lloyd George introduced his great Inheritance bill, and it was passed before the close of the session. Its object is to prevent breakdown, to

(Continued to 2d page.)

Such a campaign of song, oratory and "heckling," the proper old island

island

The Workers' Congressman on the Job

(By National Socialist Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The same man which attempted to whitewash former Secretary of the Interior Ballinger is now exerting every possible effort to remove the stains of the entire of Federal Judge Hanford. Washington is noting that the same persons and methods are now used to against Hanford of the charges brought against him by Socialist Representative

John R. McLean's organ, the Wash-

ington Post, was one of the few news-

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Ballinger. This newspaper is now also

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for Hanford and against Berger in the

present impeachment case.

Pharaoh's Method the Most Humane

It is not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?—St. Matthew xx-15.

It was an employer of labor, according to the parable, who used these words. It was his answer to those who murmured against his paying the laborers who began work in the vineyard at the last hour the same amount he had agreed to pay them who had borne the heat and burden of the day. It was the same question the Pharaohs asked in self-defense and justification when the children of Israel protested against being compelled to make bricks without straw. It has been the *eternal* question those who employ men have offered in answer to the demands of labor and society that labor shall be sufficiently remunerated, shall be accorded treatment as humans rather than beasts of burden and shall be afforded opportunity of improving their condition in life by having both the time and the wages to devote to recreation, education and religious devotions.

Every revolution of the people, from the days when the children of Israel were led out of bondage down to the present moment has been a revolution of the laboring classes, a protest against the doctrine that the ruling classes have the right to do as they will with the classes that are governed.

The helots of ancient Greece were slaves; so were the Roman plebs. Feudalism stood for the ownership of the working classes by the lords. Not only was the labor and production of the workmen the property of the master, but the master also owned their bodies, and the bodies of their wives and children.

Every step toward democracy in England from the signing of the Magna Charta down through the times of Wat Tyler's revolution, until the recent overthrow of the house of lords by Lloyd-George has been the steady fight against the right of the employer to buy anything more than the free labor of the employee.

We have helped the fight in this country. The civil war was primarily not a war against secession, but against slave labor and its encroachment upon the free labor of the north. Since the civil war the fight has continued, but it has been transferred to legislative halls and the pulpit and the press.

Human greed is the same the world over and time without end. It is the same today as it was in biblical times. Pharaoh ordered the Jewish mid-

wives to slay all male children at birth. The modern industrial system accomplishes the same end by forcing the future and present mothers to work that renders them unfit for motherhood and precludes the probability of their offspring being physically or mentally equipped to do except enter the ranks of unskilled labor at the earliest possible age and give up their lives to the taskmaster.

This is not pessimism or imagination. Look at the fight that was made in the senate of these United States against the prohibition of child labor and women labor in the great mills and sweat shops of the country—fight that was unsuccessful and defeated all the laws proposed against the practice.

Within the shadow of Fenian hall, where the voice of Wendell Phillips was raised in protest against human slavery, it has been discovered that women are working in foundries, doing the heavy work that is demanded of men, and forced, by reason of their environments to go almost naked while at work. This is in Boston! Today! And when the protest arose that naturally followed the publication of these facts, the factory owners said, in polite Bostonese, "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?" Perhaps they did not say it; rather, they employed some lawyer to say it for them.

How far have we advanced since the days of the dynasty on the banks of the Nile? What right have we to feel superior to the European nations that permit women to be harnessed with dogs or goats or oxen and act as beasts of burden or help drag the plow or clumsy vehicle?

Are we a democratic nation? Is labor free and honorable? Are our institutions built on a firm foundation? Are we even Christian people—when such conditions are permitted to exist? Was not Pharaoh's method of slaying the children at birth more humane than this method?

Can not the manufacturers' associations and such financial leaders as George Perkins, who are worried over the agitation of the masses, turn their attention to the elimination of such conditions with much more profit than passing resolutions and making addresses deplored the spirit of unrest that is abroad in the land?

"Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?" asked the owner of the vineyard. What is the answer of the modern world and of this nation to that question?—Indianapolis Sun.

Our Standard Bearers

By CHESTER M. WRIGHT.

The lineup is class against class. It is worker against exploiter; labor against capital.

The Socialist party is not arraying class against class; it is not setting up class against class; the classes are already there and are already arrayed against each other. The capitalist class has been getting all the best of it by keeping the working class from the knowledge that it was a class with a class interest and a class fight. All that the Socialists are trying to do is to arouse labor to a realization of what it is, that it may go into the battle awake and armed with the knowledge of what it is. And to that end the Socialist party will bend every fiber of its being. The classes are here; one of them has long been preying upon the other, arrayed in the armament that best suited its needs. The other class, OUR CLASS, must get into action—AND IT IS GETTING INTO ACTION!

The coming campaign will see the spirit of labor stirred as never before. With Gene Debs and Emil Seidel at its head, the working class of America will plant a streak of red across the country on election day that will shake old capitalism with all its pusyfaced, its hypocrites, its shams, its false fronts, its thieving hands and its lying faces to the very roots of its being.

The battle will be fought over the ownership of the bread. The family must stick together. Out with the fraud who comes in the door as a guest. To the worker belongs the fruit of his toil!

The entire movement within our ranks smacks of the spirit of imitation, and should not be encouraged. It is being made, and did not appear as a result of existing conditions.

Class consciousness, solidarity, talent and the firm will to co-operate are to be found amongst the masses here, and the cost of running co-operatives is greatly increased through the optional character of the Americans.

The political effects of possible failure of co-operative enterprises I have not even dwelt upon.

Such failure would weaken both other arms of our labor movement. We cannot afford to take chances. If your third arm friend had studied the co-operatives of Europe, he would know that these became successful through the economic and political strength of the workers. The plan here is to develop economic and political strength through the co-operatives. This means putting the people before the horse, and it shows that no roads may know the Socialist theories, but they do not know how to apply these theories to American conditions.

GEO. STRELITZ.

Socialism in England

(Continued from 1st page.)

out of the greatest cause of poverty at its source, inability to earn a livelihood. Its details are largely based upon the report of the Royal Poor Law Commission, 1900-1909. This commission brought to light reports on the prevention of destitution. Mrs. Sidney Webb was a member of the commission, and the minority report is virtually her handiwork—and that of her experienced husband.

Socialists Exaltant.

I have enumerated these few others who could be named—to show how England is shifting upon a basis of Social-Democracy.

"That ends it," they said. "They will lose half their circulation. They will fix 'em. We give The Leader about one more week. It may quit tomorrow."

So they have watched the circulation every day. But the awful slump didn't come. It got shitties and hung off. It is still hanging.

Of course, some lukewarm subscribers made the sales in price an excuse to drop off. A few were misinformed by news boys who had been bribed to work against The Leader. Most of these drops, we should say 90 per cent, have been brought back to the lists by the splendid work of the Leader boosters.

And the result, so far, The Leader has practically held its circulation.

What little drop occurred has been on the street sales. The regular circulation in the homes and elsewhere has shown no reduction at all to speak of.

This is really remarkable. No other Milwaukee paper would dare to attempt such a thing.

As to paper lost over half its circulation when it raised its price, The Leader's loss is quite insignificant. And by the time the boosters have gone over the city once more the circulation will begin to go up steadily.

The March of Socialization.

Wherever you go in England you hear that "Socialism is in the air." You cannot talk ten minutes with anybody without touching upon some phase of the social question. It is the practical British Socialism of amelioration. "This practical, constitutional, evolutionary Socialism," is a chronicler for the Fabians call it. It would have to be practical to appeal to the British statesmen, and evolutionary to appeal to the British philosopher.

In the dark days of 1885 and 1890 there were a great many young Socialists who believed that the social revolution was waiting around the next corner, and would soon sweep over London in bloody reality. Many of the young men are Fabians today. They think they were mistaken. They were

not. There was a revolution around the next corner. It was not sanguine but it was a British revolution, and to-day it has captured the high places. Government is rapidly encroaching upon private property through the powers of taxation, of polices supervision, of sanitary regulation, and through state aid to the unfortunate.

Ownership, even in land, is now only an incident. The rights of society are growing daily more paramount. So far has the "revolution" advanced.

Slavery

Slavery includes all other crimes. It is the joint product of the kidnaper, the pirate, thief, murderer and hypocrite. It degrades labor and corrupts leisure.

With the idea that labor is the basis of progress goes the truth that labor must be free. The laborer must be a free man.

The undergraduate chapters of the I. S. S. now number 49, an increase of 20 over the beginning of the year, the report states, and graduate chapters five. The principal gain in membership is seen in the middle Atlantic states and the middle west, seven chapters having been established in each section, while the New England states secured four new chapters, the South, one, and Canada, one. The largest growth of any single state was evidenced in New York where groups were organized at New York university, C. C. N. Y. (evening), Colgate, Union, and the New York Medical college.

Ohio captured the majority of new groups formed in the middle west.

The laboring people should unite and should protect themselves against all idlers. You can divide mankind into classes: The laborers and the idlers, the supporters and the supported, the honest and the dishonest. Every man is dishonest who lives upon the unpaid labors of others, no matter if he occupies a throne.

We need freedom and free minds—free labor and free thought, chainless hands and fearless brains. Free labor will give us wealth. Free thought will give us truth.

There will never be a generation of great men until there have been a generation of free women—of free mothers.

When women reason, and babies sit in the laps of philosophy, the victory of reason over the shadowy host of darkness will be complete.

The rights of men and women should be equal and sacred—marriage should be a true, strict partnership; children should be governed by kindness—every family should be a republic—every firsde a democracy—ingersoll.

"OUR JUDICIAL OLIGARCHY." By G. E. ROE.

(Reviewed by Oscar Redemeyer.)

Books, like men, are products of the times. "Our Judicial Oligarchy" will therefore be no surprise to the reading and thinking public. Neverthless the book being in the nature of a treatise on forbidden ground, it will prove highly interesting to some, tantalizing to others, and instructive to all.

Mr. Roe, the author of the book, is a New York lawyer, a progressive, and a staunch friend of La Follette. In his book, he, of course, reflects the influence of each and all of these designations. In the first place, he treats the judiciary, state as well as federal, with the utmost delicacy and reserve, becoming to those who do homage to the wool sack. In the second place his criticism of courts and judges is no more than progressive. His subject is divided into seven chapters of which the first deals with the popular distrust of the courts. In the second, the third, fourth and fifth chapters he gives the reasons for this distrust, follows: (a) The courts have usurped the power to declare laws unconstitutional; (b) The courts have assumed the power to declare other statutes invalid merely because the judges disapprove the policy of such legislation; (c) The judges by reading their own views into statutes, have made the judiciary a law-making branch of the government; (d) The poor man is not an equal with the rich one before the courts. Chapter 7 gives suggestions for the reform of the judiciary, first, popular discussion of the subject; second, the recall of judges; and third, legislation limiting the power of judges.

Mr. Roe is not the first one in the field of inquiry of courts and their judges. Several magazine writers have preceded him, and the "Appeal to Reason" has published some years ago in pamphlet form a selection of infamously decisions. His book, however, is timely and will be a thought-provoker among non-Socialists.

From the Socialist's point of view, the book, his, heralds the mark. We, of the clan of Marx, know and give the reason for the courts and judges nodding approvingly to the powers of exploitation. Courts like executives and legislative assemblies are controlled by the same economic determinism that molds the education, the ethics, the religions, and the law of society. Unless a different economic determinism assumes control of society our courts will change their complexion. Just how an enlightened working class will reconstruct our judiciary is still an unexplored field of inquiry, that up to this date has been untouched by Socialist scholars.

This is the pledge I gladly give. This is the oath I proudly take. All that I am and ever was, All that I shall have and do be I dedicate to the mighty cause of freedom for all humanity.

I offer all my hands what have wrought, I pledge the work they yet shall do. I give my best and deepest thought, I give all my strength and trust, I give my earliest love to you, I give Unto the cause and my desire is only that I be allowed To prove this love will never tire.

And if it be my destined rep. To drink of failure in most things, I still will ask to offer up.

The bitter strength that failure brings I will not ask you to share, I give My life unto its utmost breath.

And that when I shall cease to live The cause may profit by my death.

All that I am and ever was, All that I shall have and do be, I dedicate to the mighty cause Of freedom for all humanity.

This is the pledge I gladly give, This is the oath I proudly take, This is the promise by which I live.

FOND DU LAC, WIS.—A petition from the Fond du Lac Trades and Labor council was presented to the common council asking that union labor be employed on all city work contracts and otherwise such as printing, plumbing, electrical work, carpentering, mason work, painting of walls or any other city work was placed on file. The petition was addressed to the common council by F. W. Fetter, secretary of the Trades and Labor council, who said that the allied unions represent over 75 per cent of the skilled mechanics in the city. After a spirited debate the matter was placed upon the files.

UNUSUAL ATTENTION, considering that it was a Sunday picnic crowd was paid to the speakers, Emil Seidel, Socialist vice presidential candidate, Frederick Strickland, and F. Werenskiold. Seidel asserted that all of the maneuvering and shifting and pulling of strings by the Socialists in the election of the Socialist candidate, was aimed at getting the Socialists elected.

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Rotten Meat Under a Rotten System

Another proof of the Socialist position that investigation and regulation generally by the old parties spells stagnation as far as any real benefit to the people concerned is furnished by the re-appearance of the meat inspection branch in the halls of congress.

The usual rush concerning the hearings now going on hover over the press that penders to the beef trust or any other trust that pays liberally for brains. But something is certain to break loose before long, and the nation will once more hold its nose at breakfast, dinner and supper, while vegetarians get another impulse from the mere revolt of the sense at the rottenness of the meat supply.

Of the probe started by Congressman Nelson of Wisconsin, Charles Edward Russell in The Coming Nation says:

The house committee on expenditures in the agricultural department has been investigating the work of the federal meat inspectors.

Not willingly nor with avidity, but because it had to. Congressman John M. Nelson of Wisconsin has been looking into the matter and he compelled the investigation by bringing in a resolution that could not be ignored. Mr. Nelson has been conducting the hearings and the facts he has developed so far are calculated to make us exceedingly thoughtful, willy nilly.

It has been conclusively shown that there is no meat inspection worth the name.

Conditions Are Worse.

Six years ago we had this same subject forced upon our attention and as a result of an outburst of public in-

signification, following an appalling exposé, the law was amended and the country believed that the trouble had been cured.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Nelson has already shown that instead of being better, conditions in the meat industry are far worse now than they were in 1906.

Inspector after inspector has gone upon the stand and admitted that the work of inspection is merely nominal or farcical.

At all the great slaughtering centers the regular practice seems to be to pass thousands of diseased carcasses of animals absolutely unfit for food.

Animals afflicted with tuberculosis, hog cholera, trichinosis, lumpy jaw, and other disgusting and dangerous diseases are allowed to be slaughtered and the meat of such animals finds its way daily to thousands of dinner tables.

It was the general agreement of the witness that for every carcass condemned by the inspectors at least three more should have been condemned.

Details Are Revolting.

Revoltting details were furnished. One man told of a beef carcass in such a condition that he could thrust his fingers through the meat, and yet it was made up into sausages. All sorts of diseased and ill-conditioned fragments were sent the same way. There appeared to be no inspection for trichinæ. vast numbers of hogs that were afflicted with this dangerous parasite were passed, slaughtered, stamped with the government seal of approval, and sent out to be eaten.

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Some of the witness gave figures and proved mathematically that no inspection was possible because the carcasses passed too rapidly.

Disinterested outsiders, like Mrs. Caroline Bartlett Crane, gave minute accounts of their own investigations confirming the testimony of the inspectors.

There was indicated a regular business in the condemned carcasses by which parts of these were returned to the food supply of the country.

The worst things that were said in "The Jungle" were surpassed by the revelations of some of these witness.

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Advantage to Packers.

I purpose to take this matter up again and to follow the astonishing facts of the testimony, but what I am driving at now is to lay down these facts for your contemplation.

1. The law of 1906 was passed ostensibly as the government's utmost remedy for a perilous situation.

2. As a matter of fact the true purpose of the law was to give to the packers the tremendous advantage of the government seal upon their goods. The public got from it not one particle of benefit.

3. The law had not been on the statute books ten months before it

had been nullified, so far as any efficient inspection was concerned, by the "regulations" of the department of agriculture, acting in the interest of the packers.

4. The same department through the same officers was involved in the scandal of 1906 and seems to have never since abated its zealous service in the packers' behalf.

5. The same sinister influences that control or seem to control this department are the power that suppresses the news of these revelations.

To these facts I now add two others revealing the inevitable consequences of these conditions.

Government Is Sued.

Certain citizens of Switzerland are suing the United States government because they were infected with diseases from the eating of meat that bore the government's stamp of purity.

The medical profession is making alarming revelations about the prevalence of "paratyphoid," a fever directly due to the eating of diseased meat.

Taking all these facts together, one would think we had enough to think about.

Of course, we must be plundered for the sake of these packers' profits. That is well known and established. But must we be poisoned, too? And have the government appear as the active ally and protector of the poisoners? And is it absolutely impossible to get such revelations before the eyes of the deplorable public?

pealed to the state supreme court.

"Neither the present nor the former aldermen were parties to the action," said Mr. Hoan. "It is a fundamental principle of law that no officer's title can be adjudicated if he is not a party to the action."

"Further, the decision of Judge Turner was not a final judgment in the case, after trial, but merely a decision upon a demurrer. Neacy and his co-operators brought action, and the city demurred, that is, it effect said that, even if the statements of the complainants were true, they had no case. Judge Turner's decision was on this demurrer, he overruling the city's contention that there was no case, and indicating how he would decide if the matter were to go to trial with a jury, and with the same facts before it.

"If we were to allow the case to go to trial, it would take a year or more to settle it, and the matters involved demand more haste. Therefore we appeal to the supreme court, and if that court reverses Judge Turner we may obtain judgment before July 12, else it will be impossible to get the case on the early calendar."

Mr. Hoan pointed out that if the supreme court were to sustain Judge Turner, the case would have to go to trial on its merits before a final settlement could be reached.

The city attorney's office Monday appealed to the Wisconsin supreme court from the decisions of Judge Turner in the Neacy redistricting case, and the mandamus actions of former Tax Assessors Thomas F. Hayden and William Bannen, which were decided by Judge Turner Saturday against the city.

"The charter, which was of course prior to the civil service act, provides that the mayor shall appoint persons recommended by the six commissioners, and further provides that the commissioners can discharge with the approval of the mayor," said Assistant City Attorney G. S. Canright who handled the cases for the city, referring to the mandamus actions.

The civil service act provides that all persons subject to civil service shall be appointed by the heads of depart-

ments, and may be removed by those heads. The court has in effect held that the charter is repealed so far as the appointment of tax assessors is concerned, but that it still holds as to the discharges. (Both Bannen and Hayden were appointed directly by the tax commissioner.)

Ratified by Legislature.

The court also holds that assessors are not subordinate officials, but still he holds that they are subject to civil service, although the civil service law exempts heads of departments from its operation. If assessors are not subordinate, as the court declares, they must be heads of departments, and if they are not, as the court says they are, subject to civil service.

Both City Attorney Hoan and Mr. Canright, in speaking of the Neacy case, pointed out that the legislature had practically ratified the redistricting in the ward used the new ward lines as a basis for redistricting of assembly districts in the state redistricting act. Judge Turner held that the council in this particular had not complied with the legislative requirements.

No Pay, Says Carney.

The city "dads" are in for some disagreeable times. City Treasurer Carney announced Monday that he will hold up the pay of the aldermen and assessors affected until a final decision of the cases. If the four heads of the ward aldermen elected in the recent election will get their pay for some months, and the former aldermen may have the right to the pay.

The "non-partisans" propose to make all the trouble they can for Waukesha Registrar John Doarfer in the ap-

pointment of Paul J. Ramstack as deputy. His bite against Socialists always at the boiling point, Mayor Badt has directed City Controller Kotek to not sign the salary voucher for Mr. Ramstack, claiming that the waukesha registrar cannot appoint an deputy without the confirmation of the council. Without the voucher, City Treasurer Carney will of course refuse to give Mr. Ramstack his pay.

The question of the proper method of appointment of a deputy to the wa-

kesha registrar hinges on conflicting provisions of the city charter and the civil service law, the first providing that the appointment of the deputy must be ratified by the council, and the second putting it under civil service.

There is also the further question whether, even if the civil service law were applicable, the charter provision now applies, the city service commission having exempted deputies from civil service. It will probably require a test suit in the courts to straighten out the tangle.

Eugene V. Debs, Socialist candi-

date for president, will speak in Milwaukee July 21 at the monster

Social-Democratic picnic. To fill this date Debs has broken his pro-

gram for the summer as originally planned. He had intended to make no speaking date during July and part of August, saving himself for the heat and whirl of the final laps of the presidential campaign in October and November. Recognizing the need, however, of throwing his strength into the Milwaukee districts where two congressmen are expected by the Social-Democrats, Debs finally consented to come.

In response to a request by City Comptroller Kotek, City Attorney Daniel W. Hoan has rendered an opinion that the city may appropriate money for the support of the free employment offices on Fourth street.

Mr. Hoan points out that the purpose is a public one, that the activities of cities are broadening and that the courts are sustaining acts of this sort.

Then and Now

In his youth, we are told, George Washington could not tell a lie. But since he was not a lawyer or store-keeper this failing was no serious hindrance to him.

Since the signing of the Declaration of Independence our beloved country has made remarkable progress. Transportation then was by oxen. Where one driver was killed by oxen we kill ten thousand railroads who man our splendid facilities. In 1776 we had not a single penitentiary in this country. Now even the smallest state can boast of them. The little water mill has given way to the multitudes of flour mills, rolling mills, cotton mills and divorce mills which turn out more people and produce more wealth, widows and orphans in a single day than the revolutionary war produced in eight years.

Oscar Ameringer.

Unrevolutionary

What could be more unrevolutionary than the spectacle of the citizenship of this country after five long and terrifying years of continual muckraking and exposure, standing agape and watching with breathless interest the petty wranglers and blickerings of Roosevelt and Taft?

What could be more ludicrously heart-rending than a people disintegrated by poverty and social disease and at the same time frantic over the antics of two moribund political parties that have nothing genuine to offer them?

The International.

Small Target.

The late Judge Gary of Baltimore who in his younger days was a member of the state legislature, was noted for his quickness at repartee. On one occasion he had introduced a bill that proved very obnoxious to several members of the opposing faction. After adjourning one of the discontended came rushing up to him in a great state of excitement.

"Look here, Gary," he exclaimed. "I'd rather blow my brains out than advocate such a measure!"

"My dear sir," replied Gary, with a twinkle in his eye, "you flatter yourself on your marksmanship." Every-body's.

THE READY EXPLAINER.

"What did you think of my graduation exam?" inquired the young woman.

"I was very pleased with your address," replied Senator Borghese.

"But I saw you raw."

"A man is not born to be perfect. I was perfectly thoughtful I imagined for a moment that I was in the halls of legislation."

Collectivism and Industrial Evolution—Emil Vandervelde.

Evolutionary Socialism—Ed. Bernstein.

Brisbane Hall Book Store

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

THE IDLE MUST WORK

When Mr. Taft was last in Milwaukee he was called upon by the gentlemen upon whose shoulders the responsibility falls for preserving the morals and the property of the community to address himself to workingmen.

The men to whom Mr. Taft's remarks were addressed were conspicuously absent from the gustatory activities which preceded the executive's oratory, but that is not of present consequence. Mr. Taft in the course of much perfumery, conventional and platitudinous utterance succeeded in building better than he knew—in saying "more than he thought. For full many a gem of purest ray serene, the dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear. He said:

The basis of our popular government, the real theory upon which it rests, it seems to me, is that every citizen and every class of citizens—living under the same conditions—in the long run are better able to tell what is good for them than any other class of citizens, however altruistic, and therefore we have devised popular government in which every citizen or class of citizens has a voice.

Mr. Taft may have thought that he was giving voice to harmless platitudes. Yet in the one sentence he managed to include the very essence of the theory on which the working class political movement is based. It utterly rejects the theory of identity of interests, that exploited and exploiter must go up or down together and that when the interests of the master are served the interests of the servant are served with them.

Lincoln said: "No man is good enough to govern another without his consent."

The Socialist formula runs something like this: No class is good enough, or wise enough or just enough to govern another class without exploiting it.

The Socialists do not contemplate, as many of our gentlemen of leisure imagine, that a working class regime shall be established to exploit the idlers.

The drones in the hive produce no honey.

It is not designed that the men who are now doing the world's useful work shall become idlers and the workers who are now idlers shall work to support them.

We should then simply have a new form of slavery.

The idler, of course, will have to work. But he will not have to work to support the worker turned idler. He will have to work merely to support himself.

Is it not written that man shall eat his bread in the sweat of his brow?

It is heaven's will.—Milwaukee Leader.

TAPE-WORM

Reported as being 200 miles long, 200 feet wide, with head, or no. No casting. \$1.00 per meter. For 20 cent stamp. DR. M. NEY, 11th St., Milwaukee.

Specialist, 307 N. 11th St., Milwaukee.

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FOR PRESIDENT
Eugene V. Debs
OF INDIANA
FOR VICE-PRESIDENT
Emil Seidel
OF WISCONSIN

BERKELEY, Cal.—Socialist delegates to the Alameda county Socialist convention by a vote of 56 to 8 nominated Mayor J. Stitt Wilson candidate for congress. The county constitutes the Fifth congressional district and Mayor Wilson is almost certain of election.

AUBURN, N. Y.—At the last session of the convention of the Socialist party of this state Charles Edward Hoxie of New York and Gustave Streib of Syracuse were nominated as candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, on the ticket of the Socialist party in the present campaign.

Carrie W. Allen was nominated as candidate for the office of secretary of state; Olin Hoxie of Schenectady, present secretary to the controller of that city, will be the candidate for the office of state controller; Henry L. Slobodin of New York is the nominee for the office of attorney general; Frank Ehrenfried of Buffalo, state treasurer, and Dr. Charles Furman of Brooklyn, state engineer and surveyor.

NEW CASTLE, Pa.—Judge Porter struck another blow today at the local Socialist weekly, the Free Press, by sentencing Steve L. Flanagan, its former editor, and Frank M. Hartman, its business manager, each to pay \$100 fine and costs for "contempt of court," of about the same amount.

The conviction of these two Socialists grew out of comments in the Free Press on the famous "seditious libel" prosecutions of the paper.

The defendants were acquitted in the "seditious libel" case after a jury had found them guilty of the contempt charge.

The Socialists insist that had the contempt case been tried last the defendant's would have been acquitted. Attorney Marron of Pittsburgh fought hard last year to get the prosecution to try the seditious libel case first, but Judge Porter refused to grant that request.

LAWRENCE, Mass.—The workingmen and women of Duluth, Minn., have sent to the Editor-Giovannitti defense committee, and to Gov. Foss, a series of resolutions demanding the arrest of the mill owners of Lawrence. The resolution demands that the president and directors of the American Women's Company and all other mill owners, who cut the wages of the mill operatives, be arrested and tried on the same charge, namely, of being accessories before the fact.

The idea of holding the mill owners as the real accessories before the fact is growing.

At a New Castle, Pa., protest meeting, held recently, a large crowd of workingmen applauded the principal speaker, who declared that it was not Editor and Giovannitti who were on trial, but the courts of Massachusetts and capitalism.

A good way to arraign capitalism properly is to get the facts regarding the Lawrence strike. Every day the defense committee receives requests for such facts. The committee suggests

that the workingmen and women of Lawrence, Mass., should be sent to the Editor-Giovannitti defense committee, and to Gov. Foss, a series of resolutions demanding the arrest of the mill owners of Lawrence. The resolution demands that the president and directors of the American Women's Company and all other mill owners, who cut the wages of the mill operatives, be arrested and tried on the same charge, namely, of being accessories before the fact.

Yours for Socialism,

ISRAEL SMITH CLARE,
Lancaster, Pa.

Yours for Socialism,